

## Transportation Update July – September 2002

The PDCTC is continuing the review and update of its long-range transportation plan, **Connections 2025**. The current schedule calls for public outreach in early 2003 and Policy Committee adoption by mid-2003. *Kealy Salomon (845) 486-3600 or pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us* 

The update of Federal Fiscal Year **2004-2008 Transportation Improvement Program** is scheduled to begin later this fall. The Transportation Improvement Program is a document that outlines the transportation projects that will be undertaken over the next five years in Dutchess County and the Town of Lloyd in Ulster County. It is through the Transportation Improvement Program process that transportation projects get selected for funding in our area. Additional information will be sent out to the PDCTC interested party list as the process gets underway. *Jean Shanahan* (845) 431-5768.

How We've Changed? Dutchess County has changed over the past decade, but in what ways has it changed and how does this affect the residents who live here? A little over 280,000 people now call Dutchess County home, an increase of over 20,000 people since the last census. With increases in population come changes in how people get to work, how far they travel, and the vehicles available per household. The PDCTC website now documents these changes, by providing a series of tables that compare historical census data. The tables provide visitors with side-by-side comparisons of transportation related census data from 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000. Subjects covered include average commute times, journey to work modes, and vehicle availability. The tables accessed from PDCTC's can be the website www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm then click on How We've Changed. Mark Debald (845) 486-3600.

PDCTC staff recently completed a listing of **Federal Fiscal Year 2001 Project Obligations** for the period October 1, 2000-September 30, 2001. The Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) requires an annual listing of project obligations to help the public understand how federal transportation funds are being spent in the region. A copy of the Project Obligation List is included with this newsletter and is available on-line at <a href="www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm">www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm</a> then click on Transportation Projects. The 2002 Project Obligations should be available in January 2003. *Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600*.

The PDCTC web page now has information about recently completed planning projects such as the **Route 22 Corridor Management Plan** and the **Hopewell Hamlet Pedestrian Plan**. A brief summary of the projects and the final reports in Adobe Acrobat PDF version are available. *Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600*.

**Did you get a postcard in August?** We are in the process of updating our mailing database and we need your help. Please return the postcard with any changes and any updates including your email address. *Eoin Wrafter* (845) 486-3600.

A coalition of New York State transportation agencies is developing a **Unified Certification Program UCP**) to streamline the process for identifying qualified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms. The UCP Task Force is made up of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the New York State Department of Transportation, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The new process will simplify the process for certification and make it easier for recipients of USDOT funds (like the PDCTC and its member agencies) to identify qualified contractors and suppliers. For more information contact NYSDOT at (518) 457-1129 or www.dot.state.ny.us/oeodc/ucp.html.

The New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP) has announced the **2002 Recreational Trails Program**. Money is available for trails that are (or will be) "legally and physically accessible" to the public. The deadline is November 15, 2002. Minimum grants are \$5,000, maximum \$100,000. To apply for the grant you must register at the New York State E-grants system at <a href="mailto:egrants.state.ny.us/index.asp?menu=28&grantid=5">egrants.state.ny.us/index.asp?menu=28&grantid=5</a>.

Transportation Secretary Invites Comments On Future Surface Transportation Programs U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta has asked individuals and groups across the country to take advantage of a new online service to express their opinions and offer ideas as the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) prepares its proposal to Congress on reauthorization of the nation's surface transportation programs. Participants are encouraged to use the Web site to submit comments online by logging on to <a href="https://www.dot.gov/">www.dot.gov/</a> and clicking on "Surface Transportation Reauthorization."

The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) and the Local Government Commission have released "Civilizing Downtown Highways," a report on how state highways that serve as main streets can enhance communities if carefully designed. The report can be ordered online at <a href="https://www.cnu.org/">www.cnu.org/</a>

The **PDCTC** is **ON-LINE.** The web site has information on who the PDCTC is, what we do, and projects we are working on. Check it out at <a href="www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm">www.dutchessny.gov/pdctc.htm</a>. Eoin Wrafter (845) 486-3600.

Would you like to receive this update via email rather than standard mail? If so send an email to <a href="mailto:pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us">pdctc@co.dutchess.ny.us</a> with Newsletter Subscription in the subject line. *Eoin Wrafter (845)* 486-3600.

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